

AGRICULTURE.

A man has received the title of an ingenious and learned husbandman, who being in advance of the knowledge of his time, cultivated a small piece of ground by an improved method, by which he gathered more grain, and reaped larger grain than the neighbors about him, though their possession was more ample. His unscrupulous enemies excited their envy, so much that they brought this accusation against him: "That he sorcery, charms and witchcraft, he had transported his neighbors fruits, fertility and increase to his own field." For this he was ordered peremptorily by Alfonso, a Roman general, to be flogged. A peasant, fearing his laws, removed upon his best defense, bought his plow and other rural implements, and displaying them openly before the church, his daughter, a lusty, strong lass, big of bone, then turning to the citizens, "My masters," quoth he, "there are the sorcerous charms, and all the enchantments that I use, might also allure my own travail and labor, my early rising and late sleeping, and the painful sweat that I daily endure; but I am not able to present this to your view, nor to bring them with me into the assembly." This bold and open defiance captivated the people, it proved the peasant with a sound reason to an entire town. He was pronounced "not guilty" and these peasant took more of his inventions. This story, though not strictly belonging to the history of our own island, is derived from those who are said to have first taught to the Britons the art of husbandry. It may, therefore, be fairly employed to show that the first improvers of agriculture had their day of trial, just as all ages and countries, and in every path of inquiry and invention—the discovery of the rotation of crops, as in the rotary motion of the earth—Galileo has had to answer for his daring, before some embodiment of ignorance constituting an inquisition.—*Philip's History of Progress.*

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The opinion will not be controverted, we imagine, that the agricultural interest of our country is one far transcending in importance all others, and is indeed the superstructure upon which substantial basis they are reared. While it is poor ground, they in like manner are stable and studded by its influence, and in like manner decline when from any cause it becomes depressed.

With this fact so universally admitted, is it not strange that such little effort is made to elevate, if you please, and increase by all imaginable means this great and primary interest. Our farmers, like their fathers before them, became continually as cultivators, and without ceasing improving, or advancements, go on impavening their lands, planting indifferently or inferior seeds, paying no attention to a proper raising of domestic animals, but suffering them to degenerate, and in fact pursuing such a course as would justify the belief that they thought the sum of human knowledge had been exhausted in this direction, and a point attained beyond which it would be vain to look for improvement. While such conclusions are justifiable from the existing condition of things, however, we are far from thinking really, that the many intelligent gentlemen engaged in industrial pursuits in our midst, entertain any such opinions. The results, though, are practically the same, and with the exception of the usual and commendable magisterial interests, they adopt no other means to compare the course pursued by themselves in the management of their farms, with that of their fellow citizens. There is no general interchange of ideas, and comparison of results. Now, is this right and would not good grow out of the adoption of some plan which would bring our farmers and mechanics, at least once a year, into communion, when the systems of all could be compared, erroneous ideas discarded, and truth elicited by the sure and unerring test of comparison? In other words, why not organize an agricultural society for the county? It would certainly be of an immense advantage to all, and independent of its results in this behalf, would go far to increase the social feeling and intercourse of a people having common interests, common aims, and common destiny.

Turpentine and its Uses.

There are several hundred stills for the manufacture of spirit of Turpentine in the State of North Carolina alone, while the States bordering on Mississippi are all more or less engaged in it. The uses of resin and turpentine seem to increase with every development of inventive talent. In painting, in printing, in soap making, and especially in lighting, its use seems to be almost universal. It forms an important element in many chemical operations, and it is estimated in a late communication to the London Society of Arts, that from two to three hundred thousand dollars worth is consumed annually in the American India-rubber manufacturers. From seventeen thousand to twenty two thousand tons have been imported into England annually for many years past, and almost exclusively from the United States. Spirit of turpentine is obtained by distilling with water the semi-fluid sap or pitch which excludes from incisions made in the wood of various species of pine, the product left after distillation is a resinous solid, which is popularly termed resin or rosin. Camphene, which is extensively used in lampas as a substitute for oil, is a spirit of turpentine purified by repeated distillations. Burning fluid is a solution of rectified turpentine or camphene, in alcohol, the tendency of the turpentine to smoke being diminished by the addition of alcohol. Camphene and burning fluid although highly inflammable, are not of themselves explosive, a mixture, however, of the vapor of these liquids with atmospheric air is highly explosive, and, igniting at a distance, at the approach of the slight spark or flame, is apt to communicate fire to the liquid.

Receipts—Selected.

ING. OF HAMS AND BACON.—It is simply to take the same quantity of common soda as salt, one pound and a half of each to the four pounds of ham or bacon, using the usual salt. The soda prevents that hard lean of the bacon, which is so often kept it quite mellow all through, being a preventive of rust. This receipt has been very extensively tried amongst my acquaintances for the last fifteen years, and invariably approved.

HYDRATE CAKES.—Take a cup of sour cream, two eggs, a piece of butter the size of a button, a half teaspoonful of siccatura, wet hard, cut in squares, rolled thin, fry in hot lard to a nice brown put in a deep dish, pour over a gravy made of a cup of sugar, one of butter, two of hot water, with half a nutmeg grated over it. Send it to the table hot, in a covered dish. This makes a nice dish for dinner, in place of a pudding.—*Farmer's Magazine.*

NEW ENGLAND PATE IN ONE YEAR.—For England—it is estimated that England pays annually three hundred millions of dollars for mutton, more than the entire commerce of that country. The total value of a year's crop has been reported to Parliament, some time ago, as being about three thousand millions of dollars; the crop includes the animals as well as the vegetables.—*Farmer's Magazine.*

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